

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 06310 170919Z

20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 OMB-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /121 W

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R 170844Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 120

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, KS, JA

SUBJECT: KIM TAE-CHUNG CASE

REF: SEOUL 6242

1. DURING MEETING WITH DELEGATION FROM OPPOSITION NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY (NDP) SEPT 15, JUSTICE MINISTER SHIN CHIK-SU REFUSED THEIR REQUEST TO SEE KIM TAE-CHUNG. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, SHIN ALSO DISPUTED JAPANESE POLICE FINDINGS IMPLICATING ROK DIPLOMATS AND DESCRIBED AT LENGTH ROK POLICE EFFORTS TO SOLVE THE CASE. SHIN SAID KIM TONG-UN HAD ACCOUNTED FOR HIS WHEREABOUTS. KOREAN PRESS HAS NOT MENTIONED SHIN'S ALLEGATION REPORTED BY JAPANESE PRESS THAT KIM TAE-CHUNG HAD SAID KIM TONG-UN WAS NOT AMONG KIDNAPPERS. SHIN REPORTEDLY TOLD DELEGATION THE ROKG INVESTIGATION HAS "ALMOST ESTABLISHED THE OUTLINE" OF THE CASE.

2. OTHER WEEKEND NEWS ITEMS CONCERNING KIM CASE FOCUSED ON MEETINGS BETWEEN ROKG AND GOJ REPRESENTATIVES. PRESS REPORTED THAT AMBASSADOR USHIROKU MET

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PAGE 02 SEOUL 06310 170919Z

PRIMIN KIM CHONG-PIL SEPT 15, THOUGH SUBSTANCE

OF MEETING WAS NOT DISCLOSED. ROK MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO YI PYONG-HUI REPORTEDLY MET LDP OFFICIALS IN TOKYO SEPT 14. FORMER JAPNESE AMBASSADOR KANAYAMA ARRIVED IN SEOUL SEPT. 16. SPEAKING WITH NEWSMEN UPON ARRIVAL KANAYAMA REPORTEDLY DENIED THAT HE HAD COME AS A "SPECIAL ENVOY" OF GOJ BUT SAID THAT VICE FOREIGN MINISTER HOGEN HAD ASKED HIM TO CONVEY THE GOJ'S CONCERN THAT THE KIM CASE NOT CAUSE A FISSURE IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

3. WEEKEND NEWSPAPER GOSSIP COLUMNS QUOTED CRITICAL COMMENTARY BY BOTH OPPOSITION AND GOVERNMENT POLITICAL SOURCES ON JAPANESE REACTION TO KIM CASE. DRP SOURCE ACCUSED JAPANESE PRESS OF INTERFERING IN KOREAN DOMESTIC AFFAIRS. OPPOSITION SOURCES REPORTEDLY SAID JAPANESE WERE CARRYING ON AS IF THEY STILL WERE ADMINISTERING KOREA.
HABIB

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